

[Insert <First Name><Last Name>]
[Insert <Best Address>]
[Insert <Best City>, <Best State>, <Best Zip>]

RE: Important Security Notification - Please read this entire letter.

Dear [Insert <First Name> <Last Name>]:

Certified Credit Reporting is a reseller of consumer information primarily for mortgage purposes. We are contacting you regarding a data security incident that occurred on August 22, 2019 through August 26, 2019 and involved one of our end users, MidAmerica Lenders & Co. This incident involved your name, address, Social Security Number, date of birth and other identifying information. As a result, your personal information may have been potentially exposed to others. Please be assured that we have taken every step necessary to address the incident.

## What happened:

Our client, MidAmerica Lenders & Co, was the victim of an email attack on 8/22/19 whereas the attacker(s) was able to compromise an employees' credentials to our system. Our client has since had professional security experts come in and extradite the malicious software which was installed during the attack. In addition, the company has had additional security training conducted by external security professionals.

Certified Credit Reporting discovered this intrusion on 8/26/19 and immediately took steps to block further access and notified the national credit agencies – Equifax, Experian and TransUnion.

## What we are doing to protect your information:

To help protect your identity, we are offering a complimentary two-year membership of Experian's® IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup>. This product provides you with superior identity detection and resolution of identity theft. To activate your membership and start monitoring your personal information please follow the steps below:

- Ensure that you **enroll by**: **12/31/2019** (Your code will not work after this date.)
- Visit the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: <a href="https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit">https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit</a>
- Provide your activation code: Insert <Activation Code>

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with identity restoration or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at **1-877-890-9332** by **12/31/2019.** Be prepared to provide engagement number **DB14784** as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services by Experian.



## ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 24-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS MEMBERSHIP:

A credit card is **not** required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks.

You can contact Experian **immediately** regarding any fraud issues, and have access to the following features once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks:

- Experian credit report at signup: See what information is associated with your credit file. Daily credit reports are available for online members only.\*
- Credit Monitoring: Actively monitors Experian, Equifax and Transunion files for indicators of fraud.
- Identity Restoration: Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
- Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARE<sup>TM</sup>: You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- Up to \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance\*\*: Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

If you believe there was fraudulent use of your information and would like to discuss how you may be able to resolve those issues, please reach out to an Experian agent at **1-877-890-9332**. If, after discussing your situation with an agent, it is determined that Identity Restoration support is needed, then an Experian Identity Restoration agent is available to work with you to investigate and resolve each incident of fraud that occurred (including, as appropriate, helping you with contacting credit grantors to dispute charges and close accounts; assisting you in placing a freeze on your credit file with the three major credit bureaus; and assisting you with contacting government agencies to help restore your identity to its proper condition).

Please note that this Identity Restoration support is available to you for two years from the date of this letter and does not require any action on your part at this time. The Terms and Conditions for this offer are located at <a href="https://www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration">www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration</a>. You will also find self-help tips and information about identity protection at this site

Even if you choose not to enroll in the IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup> described above, there are other steps you can take to help protect yourself. Please see the Identity Theft Prevention Tips on the following pages, about how you can obtain a free copy of your report and place a fraud alert and/or credit freeze on your credit report.

We sincerely apologize for this incident and regret any inconvenience it may cause you. Should you have questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us at **855-353-1012** or **800-769-7615**.

Sincerely,

Lucy Block
President/CEO

<sup>\*</sup> Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling

<sup>\*\*</sup> The Identity Theft Insurance is underwritten and administered by American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida, an Assurant company. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions.



## **Identity Theft Prevention Tips**

We remind you it is always advisable to be vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing your account statements and free credit reports for any unauthorized activity. You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies. To order your annual free credit report, please visit <a href="https://www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a> or call toll free at 1-877-322-8228. Contact information for the three nationwide credit reporting companies is as follows:

- Equifax, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, <u>www.equifax.com</u>, 1-800-685-1111
- Experian, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, <u>www.experian.com</u>, 1-888-397-3742
- TransUnion, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-800-916-8800

If you believe you are the victim of identity theft or have reason to believe your personal information has been misused, you should immediately contact the Federal Trade Commission and/or the Attorney General's office in your state. You can obtain information from these sources about steps an individual can take to avoid identity theft as well as information about fraud alerts and security freezes. You should also contact your local law enforcement authorities and file a police report. Obtain a copy of the police report in case you are asked to provide copies to creditors to correct your records. Contact information for the Federal Trade Commission is as follows:

- Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338), <a href="https://www.ftc.gov/idtheft">www.ftc.gov/idtheft</a>
- *Maryland Attorney General Office*, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023, www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov

Fraud Alerts: There are two types of fraud alerts you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud – an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for one (1) year. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft with the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by contacting any of the three national credit reporting agencies.

Credit Freezes: You have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, free of charge, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN that is issued to you when you initiate a freeze. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a security freeze, potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a security freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit.



There is no fee to place or lift a security freeze. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a security freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. For information and instructions to place a security freeze, contact each of the credit reporting agencies at the addresses below:

- Equifax Security Freeze, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.com
- Experian Security Freeze, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com
- TransUnion Security Freeze, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com

To request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

- 1. Your full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.)
- 2. Social Security Number
- 3. Date of birth
- 4. If you have moved in the past five years, provide the addresses where you have lived over the prior five years
- 5. Proof of current address such as a current utility bill or telephone bill
- 6. A legible photocopy of a government issued identification care (state driver's license or ID card, military identification, etc.)
- 7. If you are a victim of identity theft, include a copy of the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft.

The credit reporting agencies have one business day after receiving your request by toll-free telephone or secure electronic means, or three business days after receiving your request by mail, to place a security freeze on your credit report. The credit bureaus must also send written confirmation to you within five business days and provide you with a unique personal identification number ("PIN") or password or both that can be used by you to authorize the removal or lifting of the security freeze.

To lift the security freeze in order to allow a specific entity or individual access to your credit report, or to life a security freeze for a specified period of time, you must submit a request through a toll-free telephone number, a secure electronic means maintained by a credit reporting agency, or by sending a written request via regular, certified, or overnight mail to the credit reporting agencies and include proper identification (name, address, and Social Security Number) and the PIN or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze as well as the identity of those entities or individuals you would like to receive your credit report or the specific period of time you want the credit report available. The credit reporting agencies have one business day after receiving your request by toll-free telephone or secure electronic means, or three business days after receiving your request by mail, to lift the security freeze or those identified entities or for the specified period of time.

To remove the security freeze, you must submit a request through a toll-free telephone number, a secure electronic means maintained by a credit reporting agency, or by sending a written request via regular, certified or overnight mail to each of the three credit bureaus and include proper identification (name, address, and Social Security Number) and the PIN number or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze. The credit bureaus have one business day after receiving your request by toll-free telephone or secure electronic means, or three business days after receiving your request by mail, to remove the security freeze.